U.S. Representative Sanford Bishop Thursday (10/2) voted for a bill to ban partial-birth abortions except in cases where the procedure is necessary to save the life of the mother.

Earlier this year, the House and Senate passed separate versions of the "Partial Birth Abortion Act." A joint conference committee worked out a compromise version of the bill, and reported the agreement back to the full House and Senate for final approval. The House Thursday passed the compromise by a vote of 281-142.

Representative Bishop, pointing out the American Medical Association does not endorse partial-birth abortions, said he voted for the ban because many health care professionals agree it is a cruel and unnecessary procedure.